

S 6

Putting Our Veterans Back to Work Act of 2013

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jan 22, 2013

Current Status: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute

Latest Action: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably. (Jul 24, 2013)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/6>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Reid, Harry [D-NV]

Party: Democratic • **State:** NV • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (25 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baucus, Max [D-MT]	D · MT		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Begich, Mark [D-AK]	D · AK		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Levin, Carl [D-MI]	D · MI		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]	D · FL		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]	D · HI		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Jan 22, 2013
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jan 23, 2013
Sen. Rockefeller, John D., IV [D-WV]	D · WV		Jan 23, 2013
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Jan 24, 2013
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Jan 29, 2013
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Feb 25, 2013

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Markup By	Jul 24, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 S 1950	Related bill	Feb 4, 2014: Motion to proceed to consideration of measure withdrawn in Senate. (consideration: CR S736)
113 HR 3453	Identical bill	Jan 24, 2014: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

Putting Our Veterans Back to Work Act of 2013 - Amends the: (1) VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 to extend through March 31, 2016, the veterans retraining assistance program; and (2) Wounded Warrior Act to extend through 2016 the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) (Secretary) to provide the same rehabilitation and vocational benefits to members of the Armed Forces (members) with severe injuries or illnesses as are provided to veterans.

Extends through: (1) March 31, 2016, additional VA rehabilitation programs for certain disabled veterans who have completed a VA rehabilitation program and have exhausted their rights to state unemployment benefits; and (2) FY2015 the collaborative veterans' training, mentoring, and placement program.

Directs the Secretary to develop a single, unified federal web-based employment portal for veterans to access information on federal programs and activities concerning veterans employment, unemployment benefits, and training.

Directs the: (1) Secretary of Homeland Security (DHS) to award grants to hire veterans as firefighters, and (2) Attorney General (AG) to award grants to hire veterans as law enforcement officers.

Requires the head of each executive and defense agency to consider favorably, as an evaluation factor in federal solicitations for contracts and task or delivery orders valued at or above \$25 million, the employment by a prospective contractor of veterans constituting at least 5% of the contractor's workforce.

Allows a veteran on whose behalf a complaint of a violation of employment or reemployment rights under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) is made by the AG to intervene in such action, and to obtain appropriate relief. Requires the AG, within 60 days after receiving a referral of an unsuccessful attempt to resolve a complaint relating to a state or private employer, to notify the person on whose behalf the complaint is submitted of either the decision to commence such an action or of when such decision is expected to be made. Requires, in the latter case, such decision to be made within an additional 30 days. Requires the AG to commence such an action when there is reasonable cause to believe that a state or private employer is engaged in a pattern or practice of resistance to the full enjoyment of such rights and benefits, and that the pattern or practice denies the full exercise of such rights and benefits.

Authorizes the suspension, termination, or debarment of federal contractors for repeated failures or refusals to comply with USERRA protections.

Provides the Special Counsel with subpoena power to require the attendance and testimony of, and production of documents from, federal employees, to be enforced through the Merit Systems Protection Board.

Authorizes the AG, in employment or reemployment rights investigations, to issue and serve a civil investigative demand for the production of documentary material.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 24, 2013:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Jun 12, 2013:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 113-111.
- **Jan 22, 2013:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 22, 2013:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (text of measure as introduced: CR S45-47)